

APPROVED jV 9/23/2010

CUMBERLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee was held on Thursday, August 26, 2010 at the Cumberland High School Auditorium, 2600 Mendon Road, Cumberland, Rhode Island.

Agenda Item #1: Chairman Convenes Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Costa at 7:35 p.m.

Members Present: Lisa Beaulieu, Donald Costa, Brian Kelly, Jeff Mutter, Ryan Pearson, Dan Pedro, Earl Wood.

Staff Present: Donna A. Morelle, Ed.D., Superintendent, Joseph A. Rotella, Esq., Director of Administration, Lisa Colwell, Director of Special Services, Fred Schockaert, Dep. Director of Special Services.

Agenda Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item #3: Approval of Agenda

Mr. Wood made a motion to approve the agenda, 2nd by Mr. Mutter, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #4: Chairperson's Report

No report at this time.

Agenda Item #5: Comments from the Public

Paul D. wanted to know if any of the walking distances were changed.

Also asked if any of the busses were not being used, if any of the routes/stops were being eliminated. Mr. Costa explained that they were working on some changes, but thought that the changes would be completed by the beginning of school. Dr. Morelle noted that they have two policies, one policy that is in effect until June 30, 2011 and the other that starts on July 1, 2011. Bussing questions should be directed to Mr. Frank Geiselman, Director of Athletics and Transportation. He can be reached at the high school.

Agenda Item #6: Reports of Standing Committees

A. Payment of Bills jV Finance had nothing to report at this time.

Mrs. Beaulieu commented that the Curriculum Committee met earlier in the week and discussed the grading scale policy pilot that the high school is currently using. The high school has been undertaking this pilot over the course of the school year and Mrs. Gould noted that there had been some changes over time. They also discussed reviewing the grading system for the entire district and also a proficiency based diploma system where grading, homework and policies would definitely impact the direction that the district needs to go. There will be more meetings regarding these issues.

Mr. Pedro noted that Rules and Regj's had recently met and reviewed the student conduct policy and believed that it is accurate and that

basically any repercussions that students face from their actions would come from administration or the student handbook. The committee will be reviewing the handbook in the future. Also, at the next meeting the committee would like to review the fixed assets policy, bomb threat policy, field trip policy, de-briefing policy and bus policy.

Agenda Item #7: Approval of Minutes

Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve Executive Session 8/3/10 and Regular Meeting 8/12/10, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #8: Approval of Minutes

Mr. Pearson made a motion to take Executive Session 7/15/10 off the table, 2nd by Mr. Wood, approved 7-0.

Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve the Executive Session of 7/15/10 and 8/3/10, 2nd by Mr. Wood, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #9: New Business

A. Recalls ¶ Dr. Morelle had the following recalls:

I recommend that the action taken by the school committee on February 11, 2010

not to renew the employment of the following for the 2010¶2011 school year,

be rescinded:

fâ Michael Walsh, (#171), recall to the position of Grade 6 Social Studies Teacher at Joseph L. McCourt Middle School, pending receipt

of Emergency Certificate, effective 8/26/2010.

fâ Lauren Hammond, (#334), recall to the position of Grade 1 Teacher at Community School, effective 8/26/2010.

fâ Laura Spino, (#340), recall to the position of Grade 3 Teacher at Community School, effective 8/26/2010.

fâ Malaina Borden, (#352), recall to the position of Grade 3 Teacher at Garvin Memorial School, effective 8/26/2010.

fâ Stephanie Menard, (#359), recall to the position of Kindergarten Teacher at Garvin Memorial School, effective 8/26/2010.

fâ Sandra Lariviere, (#377), recall to the position of Grade 4 Teacher at Ashton School, effective 8/26/2010.

fâ Jennifer Antonelli, (#379), recall to the position of Elementary Teacher at Systemwide, effective 8/26/2010.

fâ Katherine Hermann, (#380), recall to the position of 1.0 FTE English Teacher at Joseph L. McCourt Middle School, effective 8/26/2010.

fâ Heather Hall, (#382), recall to the position of 1.0 FTE English Teacher at North Cumberland Middle School, effective 8/26/2010.

Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve these recalls, 2nd by Mr. Mutter and Mrs. Beaulieu, approved as presented, 7-0.

I recommend that the action taken by the school committee on February 12, 2009

not to renew the employment of the following for the 2009½2010 school year,

be rescinded:

fâ Sarah Primiano, (#TBD), recall to the position of Physical

Education Teacher at Systemwide, effective 8/26/2010.

Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve this recall, 2nd by Mr. Kelly, approved 7-0.

B. Update on Opening of 2010-2011 School Year - Dr. Morelle stated that Rhode Island was awarded \$15 million dollars in the Race to the Top and she thought it was very important and very exciting for our district. She believes that this is a turning point in education for Rhode Island and Cumberland. Dr. Morelle also thanked the School Committee for signing both the documents for the Race to the Top! Dr. Morelle said that everyone was ready for the opening of school. Two interim administrators have been hired, one for Garvin and one for McCourt ;V when the recommendations for elementary and middle schools are complete she will have a better handle on what these jobs entail and at that time permanent administrators will be hired. A new teacher was being hired at tonight's meeting. Dr. Morelle also noted that a lot of work was being done on bus routes and that the district would be maintaining the current policy. Durham has gone through all stops and some new crossing guards will be put in place. Dr. Carney noted that her department is watching the enrollment numbers very carefully and she will bring a full enrollment report to the committee after the start of school. Dr. Carney also stated that on August 31st the teachers would be rolling out the new Math Scope & Sequence program ;V this is more aligned with the state requirements and then on primary election day, the Reading Core program will be rolled out.

C. Home School Instruction Requests 2010-2011 School Year ;V Dr.

Carney said she had requests from 19 families so far, some old and some new ;V she thinks there will be a few more but is asking the committee to approve these requests tonight and at that point Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve these requests of Dr. Carney, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #10: Personnel Recommendations

Dr. Morelle had the following personnel recommendations:

Resignation

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of Rebecca Maurano, Special Educator, at JJM Cumberland Hill Elementary School, effective 8/23/2010.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of Amy Sattel, School Psychologist, at Systemwide, effective 8/23/2010.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of William Tocco, Mathematics Teacher, at Cumberland High School, effective 8/19/2010.

Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve these resignations, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.

Leaves of Absence

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the Parental Leave of Valerie Fleury, Grade 2 Teacher, at Community School, effective for the 2010-2011 school year. (Budgeted)

Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve this leave, 2nd by Mr. Wood, approved 7-0.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the

Maternity Leave of Alison Laplume, Art Teacher, at North Cumberland Middle School, effective 8/30/2010 with a return date of 10/1/2010. (Budgeted)

Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve this leave, 2nd by Mr. Wood, approved 7-0.

Appointments

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of Carol Allen, Special Educator, at Cumberland High School, effective 8/26/2010. (FTE: 1.0; Step 1; Lane: n/a; Co-pay: 15.5%; Budgeted)

Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve this appointment, 2nd by Mr. Wood, approved 7-0.

Dr. Morelle had further personnel recommendations:

Addendum #1

Resignation

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of Nicole Tella, Science Teacher, at Cumberland High School, effective 8/19/2010.

Mr. Wood made a motion to approve this resignation, 2nd by Mr. Pearson, approved 7-0.

Leave of Absence

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the Family Medical Leave of Angie Carpentier, English Teacher, at Cumberland High School, effective 8/30/2010 with a return date of 11/10/2010. (Budgeted)

Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve this leave of absence, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.

Appointment -Department Chairperson - Cumberland High School

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of David Rosen, Special Education Department Chairperson, at Cumberland High School for the 2010-2011 school year, effective 8/27/2010. (Budgeted)

Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve this appointment, 2nd by Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item # 11: Comments from the Public

Maggie F. was concerned about the fact that there was no policy in place for children being dropped off at bus stops and not having parents or an adult waiting for them. Only kindergarten children have to have someone at the bus stop to meet them ;V all others can be dropped off at the stop whether or not there is a parent/adult waiting for them. Dr. Morelle assured Maggie that she would look into this situation and discuss it with Durham to find out what their procedures are and how they would handle this sought of situation.

Agenda Item #12: School Committee Comments (School Liaison Reports)

Mr. Pedro was happy to announce that the Cumberland Community Band has donated more than \$500 towards scholarships for this year and the following year!

Mrs. Beaulieu asked if the committee could get a listing of the

changes that have occurred in regard to classes at the elementary, middle and high school levels. If something has been dropped she would like to know what has been put in its place and also if something has been added to the schedule she would like to know. This is just to keep the committee up to date on what is being offered and where.

Mr. Pearson asked for an up to date personnel listing and a department level athletics budget from last year and what is currently in the budget.

Mr. Costa introduced Brian C. who is a student here in Cumberland and Brian is trying to get his Eagle Scout Award and wanted to ask the committee and the members of the audience if they could volunteer at the monastery on Saturday, 8/28/10 from 9-2 to help him fix the physical fitness stations at the monastery. He has already put in several hours and has completed a lot of the work already but still has more to do. He thanked local businesses for their support and help so far and hopes that some volunteers come by to help him out.

Agenda Item #13: Vote to go into Executive Session

No Executive Session.

At this time Mr. Pearson made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Mr. Pedro, approved 7-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Linda A. Jackvony